

REMARKS

These remarks are in response to the Final Office Action dated November 3, 2004, which has a shortened statutory period for response set to expire February 3, 2005. No extension of time is required.

Drawings

Reference indices 56 and 58 calling out the second “Practical?” decision operation and the “Group Toward Center” operation, respectively, were inadvertently omitted from original FIG. 5. Accordingly, FIG. 5 is amended herein to identify the second “Practical?” decision operation with the index 56 and the “Group Toward Center” operation with the index 58. Support for this amendment is provided in Applicant’s original specification at least at the paragraph beginning at Page 7, Line 8. No new matter is entered.

An annotated marked-up drawing is provided for the Examiner’s convenience, showing the drawing changes in red ink. A formal replacement sheet is also submitted herewith incorporating the above changes. Applicant respectfully requests substitution of the amended FIG. 5 shown in the replacement sheet for the FIG. 5 originally filed.

Specification

The specification is objected to for failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. The Examiner writes:

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: the feature “the vias of the imaging surfaces occupy *no more than 5% of the surface area of the imaging surface*” of claims 35-37.

Claims 35-37 are canceled herein, thereby obviating the objection to the specification. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

Claims

Claims 1-47 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 35-37 are rejected and Claims 1-34 and 38-47 are allowed. Claims 11-20, 24-29, 34, 44, and 46-47 are hereby amended, and Claims 35-37 are canceled. Allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that Claims 1-34 and 38-47 are allowed.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 35-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph for failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 35-37 are canceled herein, thereby obviating the rejection of those claims. The claims are canceled without prejudice, and Applicant does not acquiesce in the propriety of the rejection.

For the above reasons Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Amendments to Claims 11-20, 24-29, 34, 44, and 46-47

Although Claim 11 stands allowed, Applicant notes a clarity issue with that claim. In particular, the preamble of Claim 11 is directed to an "improvement" in an LCD array. However, the body of the claim recites method steps. In addition, dependent Claims 12-20 recite: "The LCD array of claim 11," but dependent Claim 40 recites: "The method of claim 11." Thus, it is at least arguably unclear whether Claim 11 is a device claim or a method claim. Therefore, Claim 11 is amended herein to be clearly directed to a method. Claims 12-20, 34, and 46-47 are depend from Claim 11 and are also amended accordingly.

Independent Claims 24-29 also lack clarity for the same reasons as Claim 11. Therefore, Claims 24-29 are amended similar to Claim 11.

Claim 44 includes a "device" type preamble, yet depends from method Claim 9. Claim 44 is amended herein to correct this inconsistency.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant believes Claims 1-34 and 38-47 are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner undertake any action other than allowance of Claims 1-34 and 38-47, or if the Examiner has any questions or suggestions for expediting the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's attorney at (269) 279-8820.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/3/05

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8(A))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

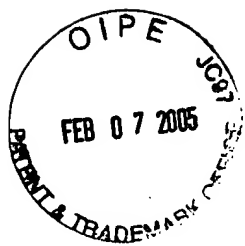
Date: 2/3/05

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App. Serial No.: 09/935,403
Atty. Docket No.: 0011-046

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please amend FIG. 5 as shown in the attached replacement sheet.



Annotated Marked-Up Drawings

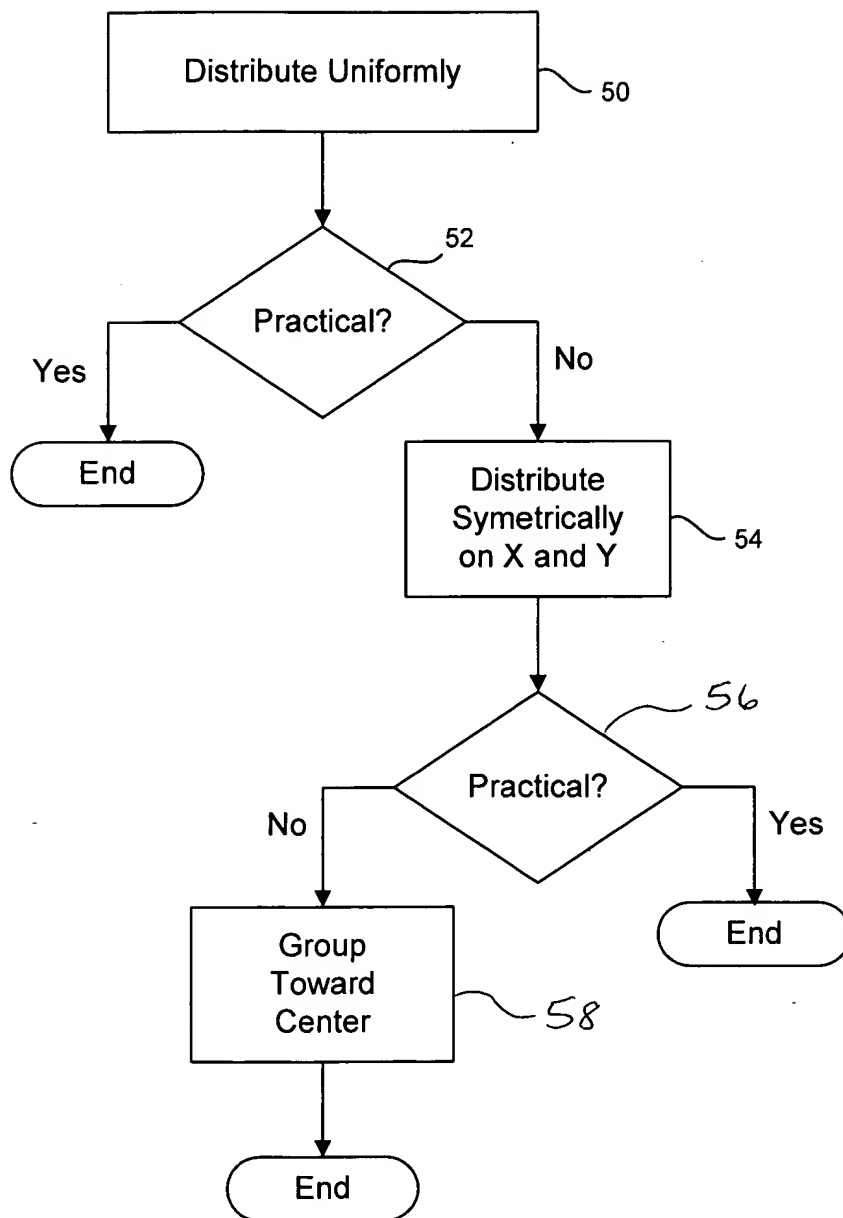


FIG. 5